

sultants as may be approved by the Secretary of General Services and provided in the budget.

20.

Wherever used in this subtitle, the term "public improvement" shall include the construction, maintenance and repair of any and every building, structure or other public work now owned or hereafter constructed or acquired by the State of Maryland or any department, officer, board, commission or agency thereof, *including any such public work acquired or constructed pursuant to Article 77A, Sections 15 through 27 AD*, or constructed or acquired in whole or in part with State funds; except that nothing in this subtitle shall apply to public improvements made by the State Roads Commission of Maryland, housing authorities created pursuant to Article 44A of the Code of Public General Laws, Maryland—National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Baltimore County metropolitan district, Anne Arundel County sanitary commission, or any county, the City of Baltimore, any other incorporated town or city, or any agency thereof. The Board of Public Works is authorized in its discretion to exempt specific projects of other departments or agencies of the State from the provisions of this subtitle.

21.

The Department of **[Public Improvements]** *General Services* shall have supervision over and advise the Board of Public Works and other State departments or agencies, except those exempted in Section 20 of this article, in connection with all engineering questions and matters pertaining to any and all public improvements, and all contracts, plans and specifications for any and all public improvements involving any engineering question shall be submitted to said Department and be subject to its approval.

22.

In addition to the general duties and powers assigned to the Department of **[Public Improvements]** *General Services* by Section 21 above, said Department shall:

(1) Assist and advise the Board of Public Works and other State departments and agencies on all matters of engineering, surveys, plans, specifications and contracts for public improvements *and land acquisition* that may come before said Board or in which such department or agency may be interested;

(2) Select and appoint architects and engineers to prepare plans and specifications for all public improvements, such appointments to be subject, however, to the approval of the Board of Public Works, and all such architects and engineers shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Department of **[Public Improvements]** *General Services*;

(3) Examine and approve all plans and specifications prepared in connection with the preparation and execution of all contracts for all public improvements;